

## N E W S L E T T E R

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

[www.kdla.net](http://www.kdla.net)

Volume 18 Number 5

September/October 2002

## BANNED BOOKS WEEK: LET FREEDOM READ

**T**he *Grapes of Wrath*, John Steinbeck's classic novel about the Depression, had a rocky introduction in American libraries back in 1939. It was burned by the East St. Louis (Illinois) Public Library, barred from the Buffalo (New York) Public Library and banned in Kansas City, Missouri. Even today, as the National Steinbeck Center celebrates the centennial of Steinbeck's birth, his books continue to be challenged. According to the American Library Association's (ALA) Office of Intellectual Freedom, *Of Mice and Men* was the second most challenged book of 2001, after the *Harry Potter* series, arguably a new children's classic.

To raise awareness regarding the censorship of books today, events, exhibits and read-outs across the country will be held during Banned Books Week, September 21-28. The read-outs will feature local celebrities and community members reading from their favorite banned book, with a focus on American classics such as Steinbeck's novels, *Catcher in the Rye*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Color Purple* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The ALA will host a read-out at its national headquarters in Chicago on September 24.

Banned Books Week 2002 has the theme "Let Freedom Read: Read a Banned Book," and is sponsored by the American Booksellers Association, the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression, the ALA, the American Society of Journalists and Authors, the Association of American Publishers and the National Association of College Stores. It is endorsed by the Center for the Book of the Library of Congress.

"The ability to read, speak, think and express ourselves freely are core American values," said Judith Krug, director of the ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom. "We hope the read-outs will help remind Americans of the importance of our freedom at a time when freedoms are being eroded in the United States. Now -- more than ever -- we must let freedom read."

The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom has recorded more than 6,500 book challenges since 1990, including 448 in 2001. It is estimated that less than one-quarter of all challenges are reported

and recorded. A "challenge" is defined as a formal, written complaint filed with a library or school about a book's content or appropriateness. The majority of challenges (roughly 60 percent) are brought by parents, followed by library patrons and administrators. Each challenge represents an effort to remove books from school curricula or library shelves.



Books many parents and teachers consider American classics, including *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Bluest Eye*, and *Lord of the Flies*, are among the most frequently challenged books of the past 12 years, when the Office for Intellectual Freedom began tracking attempts to remove books from schools and libraries.

--Continued on page 2

## BANNED BOOKS WEEK

-- Continued From page 1

"Unfortunately, any book can come under attack for any reason," said Chris Finan, president of American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression. "Steinbeck's books have been deemed 'filthy' and 'profane,' while Maurice Sendak's popular *In the Night Kitchen* has been challenged for nudity. I hope families will pick up a banned book and read it and discuss it together."

While committed parents, students, librarians, teachers and other concerned citizens are fighting to keep books on the shelves, and more and more challenges are unsuccessful, the freedom to read continues to be threatened from Iowa to Connecticut. The James Kennedy Public Library in Dyersville, Iowa, last month banned Sari Locker's teen advice book, and *Sari Says: The Real Dirt on Everything from Sex to School*, book burners in Cromwell, Pennsylvania, have set fire to children's books *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, by Elizabeth George Speare, and *Bridge to Terabithia*, by Katherine Paterson.

"Not every book will be right for every reader, but the freedom to choose for ourselves from a full array of possibilities is a hard-won right that we must not take for granted in this country," said Judith Platt, director of the Association of American Publishers' Freedom to Read program.

For more information on Banned Books Week, please visit <http://www.ala.org/bbooks/>.

Copyright © 2002, American Library Association. Reprinted with permission.

## KDLA MILESTONE

Twenty years ago, the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives moved into the Clark-Cooper Building on Coffee Tree Road in Frankfort. To commemorate this milestone, there will be an Anniversary Ceremony on Tuesday, October 8, at 2:00 P.M. Activities will include tours, music, and a reception. Make your plans to attend!

## SEPTEMBER 11 REMEMBERED

One year ago this month, the attacks in Washington and New York shook this nation to its core. Response in the aftermath has been varied – at its worst, violence directed toward Americans of Middle Eastern descent, and at its best, a dogged determination to protect the very freedoms for which many have died.

Public libraries play an integral role in the functioning of our cherished democracy. According to Thomas Jefferson, "A democratic society depends on an informed and educated citizenry." It is the unique role of the public library to ensure that *every* citizen has access to *all* ideas. The dramatic increase for information on topics such as Islam, Osama bin Laden, and terrorism demonstrates Americans' reliance on the library as the resource for informed citizenship.

Americans' resolve to preserve freedom must include protection of the freedom to read. It is ironic that Banned Books Week is celebrated in the same month of the anniversary. Perhaps as we remember the events that so tragically altered our national psyche, we the public library community can also dedicate ourselves to the principles that ensure for all the freedom to obtain information. To borrow a phrase – "Let Freedom Read!"

*Kentucky Public Library Newsletter* is published bi-monthly by Field Services Division of Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives and your regional librarian. Correspondence should be addressed to the editor, Marjorie Flowers, Green River/Pennyrile Regional Office, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301. Phone 270.687.7316; Fax 270.687.7351; e-mail: [marjorie.flowers@kdla.net](mailto:marjorie.flowers@kdla.net).

**Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives**

*Serving Kentucky's Need to Know*



An agency of the Education, Arts & Humanities Cabinet

## GRANTS FROM KDLA

KDLA has recently awarded a number of grants to public libraries which are funded through Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds. These grants funded programs in the following categories:

### *Early Childhood Subgrants*

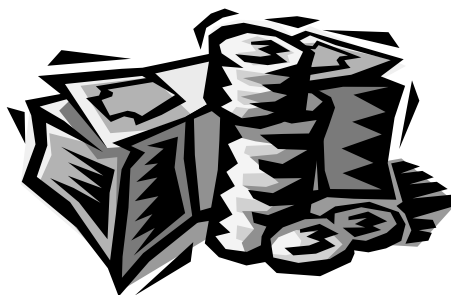
- \$7,973.00 to **Hart County Public Library** for its “Wee Read” project to establish a lapsit programming area in the library, to initiate programming for children from birth through three years of age, and to develop kits of emergent literacy and parent education materials to be circulated as part of the library's collection.
- \$4,923.00 to **Hopkinsville-Christian County Public Library** for its “Cherished Moments Storyhour” project to initiate programming for children from birth through three years of age and to complement that with monthly parent education programming.
- \$2,220.00 to **Paris-Bourbon County Public Library** for its “Reading is Good for the Brain” project to sponsor a training event for parents, childcare providers, and area public librarians.

### *School and Public Library Partnership Subgrants*

- \$3,532.00 to **Allen County Public Library** for its “Drama Troop” project which will sponsor dramatics activities for all fifth graders at White Plains Elementary School.
- \$4,344.00 to **Boone County Public Library** for its “A-PLUS” project to create special library promotion and awareness activities for the students of Florence Elementary School.

- \$5,000.00 to **Harlan County Public Library** for its “Reader’s Radio Theatre” project for teens.
- \$2,124.00 to **Meade County Public Library** for its “Art, School, and Library” programs for teens.

### *Innovative Technology Subgrants*



- \$7,500 awarded to Bullitt County Public Library to replace aging ISDN telecommunications data lines that are currently being used for the library's automation and internet with a wireless link. The wireless network will use spread spectrum line-of-sight transmitters placed on towers constructed at two of the branches. This will provide for greatly increased bandwidth, communications speed, and resulting improved service to the clientele population.
- \$3,990 awarded to Bowling Green Public to install a bi-directional satellite system on the existing mobile branch. This will allow the library to bring remote delivery of information and telecommunications to geographic segments of the county which are currently underserved or unserved.
- \$2,235 awarded to Scott County Public Library to install an information kiosk to help meet the needs of the English and Spanish populations of the county. The kiosk will give patrons access to a library map, instructions, calendars, programs and events. This includes on-line access to weather, tourism and selected Internet sites. The design of the kiosk will meet ADA requirements and be bi-lingual friendly.
- \$1,600 awarded to Trimble County Public Library to install two computers containing educational software to serve a preschool population. This will target fostering reading readiness, build education skills and develop bilingual skills at an early age.

## KLIC SERVICE RELOCATES

Cooler temperatures and shorter days announce the changing of the seasons. Students of all levels have returned to school and your community's leaders are busy making plans and preparations for next year's projects and programs. Are you experiencing an increased demand in reference and research requests? Need help?



Reference and consultation services are available through the State Library Services division of the Kentucky Department of Libraries and Archives. Whatever your information need, you can contact the State Library Services Reference staff in Frankfort by phone or by using its online reference service.

When quick answers or consultation with a librarian is needed, call the State Library's Reference staff toll-free at 1-800-928-7000, ext. 342. This toll-free number will be answered at the State Library Reference Desk from 8:00-4:30 (EST), Monday-Friday. Please remember this number is for *your* use and should *not* be shared with your patrons.

You can also contact the State Library's staff via the Internet through the "Ask a Librarian" online reference service at [www.kdla.net/statelib/asklib.htm](http://www.kdla.net/statelib/asklib.htm). Please submit your request on the *General Public & Kentucky Public Library* form. Please include complete contact information (including your library name) and deadline. This service is monitored continuously during regular business hours, and in most cases, a response is provided within one business day.

We all miss KLIC librarian Jerry Miller, but the KLIC tradition of excellent service continues at the State Library in Frankfort. The staff of the State Library is looking forward to helping you and your staff meet the information needs of your patrons.

## PLANNING FOR EVENTS AHEAD

Don't forget the following special events and dates for library related activities:

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>September</b>       | Library Card Sign-Up Month.   |
| <b>September 4</b>     | MS PowerPoint 2000 workshop @ Central Kentucky Technical College in Lexington.              |
| <b>September 8</b>     | International Literacy Day.   |
| <b>September 9</b>     | MS Excel 2000 workshop @ Owensboro Community College in Owensboro.                          |
| <b>September 10</b>    | MS Word 2000 workshop @ Paducah Information Age Park in Paducah.                            |
| <b>September 12</b>    | MS PowerPoint 2000 workshop @ Central Kentucky Technical College, Anderson in Lawrenceburg. |
| <b>September 12</b>    | Library Web Page Design workshop @ Somerset Technical College in Somerset.                  |
| <b>September 13</b>    | Library Web Page Design workshop @ ECU Manchester Campus in Manchester.                     |
| <b>September 17</b>    | Intermediate HTML 4 workshop @ Owensboro Community College in Owensboro.                    |
| <b>September 18</b>    | Intermediate HTML 4 workshop @ West Kentucky Technical College in Paducah.                  |
| <b>September 20</b>    | Library Web Page Design workshop @ West Kentucky Technical College in Paducah.              |
| <b>September 21-28</b> | Banned Books Week.  |
| <b>September 23-27</b> | Network Administrators Boot Camp II @ Blue Licks State Resort Park in Mt. Olivet.           |

**September 25-27** Widening Circles: Conference for Kentucky's Public Librarians Serving Children and Young Adults @ General Butler State Park in Carrollton.

**October 13-19** Teen Read Week.

**October 1** MS Access 2000 workshop @ Kentucky Advanced Technology Institute in Bowling Green.

**October 2** MS Publisher 2000 workshop @ Central Kentucky Technical College in Lexington.

**October 3** MS Excel 2000 workshop @ Owensboro Community College in Owensboro.

**October 7-11** Network Administrators Boot Camp II @ Blue Licks SRP in Mt. Olivet.

**October 22** MS Access 2000 workshop @ Owensboro Community College in Owensboro.

**October 23** MS Word 2000 workshop @ Somerset Technical College in Somerset.

**October 24** MS Publisher 2000 workshop @ West Kentucky Technical College in Paducah.

**November 1** Family Literacy Day.

**November 1** MS Access 2000 workshop @ Central Kentucky Technical College in Lexington.

**November 6** National Young Reader's Day.

**November 8** MS Excel workshop @ Somerset Technical College in Somerset.

**Novemebr 13** Advanced HTML 4 workshop @ Owensboro Community College in Owensboro.

**Novemebr 15** Advanced HTML 4 workshop @ West Kentucky Technical College in Paducah.

**November 18-22** Network Administrators Boot Camp II @ West Kentucky Technical College in Paducah.

**November 18-24** Children's Book Week

For information regarding workshop opportunities, please check KDLAs web page at [www.kdla.net/events/ce.htm](http://www.kdla.net/events/ce.htm).

## CATALOGING TIP

What has sold faster than videotapes, cds and laserdiscs? Before its third birthday in March 2000, what had become the most successful consumer electronics entertainment product ever? The answer to both of these questions is the DVD (digital video disk). With this new electronic format come cataloging and circulation challenges. There have recently been discussions on AUTOCAT concerning the addition of DVD holdings to the video record, the best way to label DVDs, the new DVD-Audio format and the double-sided DVDs that include widescreen and standard versions. Jay Weitz from OCLC offered a web site, the DVD Demystified FAQ page, which might be of use to answer any questions you might have. The URL is <http://www.dvddemystified.com>.

*We are always happy to answer any questions you might have concerning DVDs, or anything else that is giving you problems! Please give us a call!*

Myra Prewitt  
502-564-8300 ext. 227

## 'CROSS THE COMMONWEALTH



All across the Commonwealth public libraries and librarians are doing remarkable things that deserve the recognition of their colleagues. This column highlights some of these. Additional items for inclusion are welcome. Please e-mail items of interest to [marjorie.flowers@kdla.net](mailto:marjorie.flowers@kdla.net).

**Adair County Public Library** Bookmobile Librarian received a two-page spread in the *Adair Progress* as the only "BookMo'Bill" in the state.

**Wayne County Public Library** also received recognition in the July 24<sup>th</sup> issue of the *Wayne County Outlook* with a full-page color insert on their very successful Summer Reading Program.

**Joyce Marcum**, director of the **Owsley County Public Library**, has retired after thirty years of service.

The **Ballard/Carlisle/Livingston Public Library** received a \$500.00 donation from the Fraternal Order of Eagles of Ballard County for the purchase of large print books.

The **Graves County Public Library** participated in Graves County's second annual Hispanic/Latino Heritage Celebration. The May 2002 celebration, *Celebramos*, was held in the Expo Center at the city park.

**Marie Liang**, McCracken County Library Director, was one of twenty-five Paducah Area women recognized by the Women's Health and Wellness Center as *Women of Influence* during Women's History Month. Marie was recognized for the manner in which she has helped to raise awareness and appreciation for the **McCracken County Public Library**.

**Nelda Moore**, Lincoln Trail Regional Librarian, has been elected to the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky Board of Directors.

The Marshall County Rotary Club donated \$700 to the **Marshall County Public Library** to purchase audiocassettes.

On June 3, 2002, the Newport Branch of **Campbell County Public Library**, along with the East Row Historic Foundation, was awarded an Excellence in Preservation Award. The Foundation donated funds for the purchase of historic preservation books and the library ordered, cataloged, and houses these books.

**Anne Rogers**, director of the Bourbon County Public Library, will retire in September after thirty-one years of service.

The **Bracken County Public Library** recently unveiled plans for a \$225,000 children's wing addition. The 1,600 sq. ft. facility will be named the Richard A. House Children's Wing in honor of Mr. House, who left the library \$200,000 in his will for building purposes.

The **Fleming County Public Library** has switched to a wireless Internet connection. The Fleming-Mason Service Corporation is donating the service to the library.

**Deborah Mesplay**, director of the **Daviess County Public Library**, is mentioned in the Acknowledgements of *The New Planning for Results: A Streamlined Approach*, by Sandra Nelson. The library hired the author to facilitate the long range planning process in 1999.

## NOW THAT'S SERVICE!

Southwest Airlines has a reputation for its high quality of customer service, and the Muhlenberg County Public Libraries benefited from this service. Flight attendants found a library book on a plane and returned it to the library with a friendly (and poetic) note. Thank you, Southwest!



## GRANT OPPORTUNITY

U.S. libraries of all types are invited to apply for a \$4,000 National Library Week Grant for the best library promotion/public awareness campaign during National Library Week (April 6-12, 2003) that promotes the role librarians play in the 21st century. The grant is sponsored by Scholastic Library Publishing and administered by the Public Awareness Committee of the American Library Association (ALA). This year's application deadline is October 15, 2002.

An application form and guidelines are available at [www.ala.org/pio/nlw/grolierapp.doc](http://www.ala.org/pio/nlw/grolierapp.doc). They are also available from the ALA Public Information Office, which can be reached by telephone at 800-545-2433, ext. 4020 or by e-mail at [mhumphrey@ala.org](mailto:mhumphrey@ala.org).

The winner will be notified at the end of December and announced at the 2003 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. Information on last year's winner, the Omaha Public Library, and the winning application can be viewed at [www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/pressreleases.cfm#omaha](http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary/pressreleases.cfm#omaha). For more information about The Campaign for America's Libraries, visit the campaign's Web site at [www.ala.org/@yourlibrary](http://www.ala.org/@yourlibrary).

## CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

November 18-24, 2002 is Children's Book Week. While many vendors sell Book Week materials, the "official" ones come from Children's Book Council. For full information and lots of other helpful children's literature resources, go to [www.cbcbooks.org/](http://www.cbcbooks.org/).



## NEW TO E-RATE?

There is an excellent overview of the E-rate program available on the World Wide Web. The address is

[www.sl.universalservice.org/data/pdf/ERATE\\_DISCOUNTS\\_FOR\\_SCHOOLS\\_AND\\_LIBRARIES.pdf](http://www.sl.universalservice.org/data/pdf/ERATE_DISCOUNTS_FOR_SCHOOLS_AND_LIBRARIES.pdf). This is a great site for first-timers or repeat filers in need of a refresher.

For questions regarding E-rate or other technology issues, contact Terry Manual, KDLAs Public Library Technology Consultant, at 502-564-8300, ext. 269.

## LONG RANGE PLANS ON-LINE

Many public libraries have undertaken long range planning using the *Planning for Results* model. The following are examples of long range plans posted on libraries' web sites:

- Appleton (WI) Public Library: [www.apl.org/policies/plan99.html](http://www.apl.org/policies/plan99.html)
- Baltimore County (MD) Public Library: [www.bcplonline.org/libpg/lib\\_facts.html](http://www.bcplonline.org/libpg/lib_facts.html)
- Las Vegas-Clark County (NV) Library District: [www.lvcld.org/strategic\\_plan/index.htm](http://www.lvcld.org/strategic_plan/index.htm)
- Mesa (AZ) Public Library: [www.mesalibrary.org/about\\_us/pfr/pfr.htm](http://www.mesalibrary.org/about_us/pfr/pfr.htm)
- Multnomah County (OR) Public Library: [www.multcolib.org/plan/index.html](http://www.multcolib.org/plan/index.html)
- Plain City (OH) Public Library: [www.plain.lib.oh.us/Planning.htmg](http://www.plain.lib.oh.us/Planning.htmg)
- Solano County (CA) Library: <http://snap.lib.ca.us/scl/about/stratplan/strategicplan.html>
- St. Charles (MO) Public Library: [www.win.org/library/library](http://www.win.org/library/library)
- St. Joseph County (IN) Public Library: <http://sjcpl.lib.in.us/LRPlan2000/SJCPLVisio n2000.html>

## LIBRARY TRIVIA CORNER

Can you guess why the following books have been banned?

1. *Candide*, by Fanncois-Marie Arouet Voltaire.
2. *Leaves of Grass*, by Walt Whitman.
3. *Civil Disobedience*, by Henry David Thoreau.
4. *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, and *King Lear*, by William Shakespeare.
5. *Twelfth Night*, by William Shakespeare.
6. "Little Red Riding Hood," by the Brothers Grimm.
7. *The Merchant of Venice*, by William Shakespeare.
8. *The Voyages of Doctor Dolittle*, by Hugh Lofting.
9. *Where's Waldo?* By Martin Hanford.
10. *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

### In This Issue

• Banned Books Week: Let Freedom Read	1
• KDLA Milestone	2
• September 11 Remembered	2
• Grants From KDLA	3
• KLIC Service Relocates	4
• Planning For Events Ahead	4
• Cataloging Tip	5
• 'Cross the Commonwealth	6
• Now That's Service!	6
• Grant Opportunity	7
• Children's Book Week	7
• New To E-Rate?	7
• Long Range Plans On-Line	7

## BANNED BOOKS QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Obscenity
2. Explicit language
3. Considered subversive
4. Adult language and references to sex and violence
5. Alternative lifestyle instruction (*Twelfth Night* includes romantic entanglements including a young woman who disguises herself as a boy.)
6. Use of alcohol in the story. Little Red Riding Hood takes food and wine to her grandmother.
7. Anti-semitism
8. Racism
9. Minute drawing of a female breast
10. "A real downer."